

NOC approves FY 2025 Budget, freezing tuition and mandatory fees and expanding scholarships for adult learners

The Northern Oklahoma College Board of Regents approved the Fiscal Year 2025 Budget at the June 19th meeting in Tonkawa. The approved Educational and General Operating Budget of \$24,884,666 represents an increase of 2.2% (\$541,659).

Northern will not be seeking an increase in tuition and mandatory fees for the 2024-2025 academic year. The slight cost difference from 2023-2024 reflected in the cost comparison chart, located online at www.noc.edu/tuition is due to an increase in an academic service fee for the Tonkawa and Enid campuses. The NOC/OSU Gateway cost will remain flat for the third year in a row. The NOC Board of Regents unanimously approved this freeze in tuition and mandatory fees during their meeting and it will be presented to the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education for approval on June 27.

"The Regents are very pleased we are able to continue to provide high quality educational opportunities and services to NOC students without increasing the financial burden on them or their families," said regent chair Brad Fox.

NOC will provide over \$3 million in waivers and scholarships to our students. The institution also received state and federal funds which

will allow us to increase the scholarship assistance we provide to our adult learners. Special funding is available to eligible students for the Reach Higher Scholarship and/or the GEER (Governor's Emergency Education Relief) Scholarship, helping adult students complete their degree, thus meeting some of the demands of Oklahoma's critical workforce needs. For more information, contact Kathleen Swain at 580-628-6258 or kathleen.swain@noc.edu.

Again this year, institutions will be reimbursed for 100% of the total eligible waivers for high school juniors and seniors that our institutions provided in FY24. This \$642,087 reimbursement represents an increase of \$97,159 from the previous year.

In other positive news, The Oklahoma Legislature passed key policies for Higher Education which addressed deferred maintenance and some prior escalation in property insurance premiums. NOC will receive a total of \$10,376,633 for FY 25, representing an overall increase in allocations of 1.57% (\$156,167) from FY24.

For the third and final year, \$262,645 in state appropriations will be received to be utilized for STEM-related degree programs that lead to occupations listed as requiring a degree on Oklahoma's Top 100 Critical Occupations

(2018-2028). This "at-risk" funding will be re-evaluated at the end of the 2024-2025 academic year for possible reallocation.

"I am extremely pleased we were able to share some positive news with the budget this year," stated Diana Watkins, NOC President. "We are grateful to the Oklahoma Legislature for the increase in appropriations and the deferred maintenance funds that will allow us to make some much needed improvements on our campuses."

Also at the meeting, Jason Turnbow was elected the Regents Chair and Mike Loftis as Vice Chair for 2024-2025.

In other business, the regents approved the

following items:

- Appointed regents Turnbow and Loftis as Group One Trustees for the Northern Oklahoma College Foundation.
- Approved the NOC Campus Master Plan for FY2026-2033.
- Approved the Financial Report, Monthly Purchases, and Monthly Allocations.

June's meeting was the final for retiring regent Michael Martin who served five years on the Board of Regents.

The next meeting is Wednesday, July 17, at NOC Tonkawa at 2 p.m.

BOR honors regent Michael Martin

After five years as a Northern Oklahoma College regent, Stillwater's Michael Martin attended his final meeting Wednesday in Tonkawa.

At Martin's final meeting, NOC President Diana Watkins read a proclamation honoring his service.

Martin was praised for his dedication to "Northern's Mission which helped cultivate and promote student growth and success by creating life-changing experiences which includes the transition of NJCAA Division I men's and

women's Soccer program from Tonkawa to Enid as well as adding a new NJCAA men's and women's Wrestling program to the Tonkawa campus."

Highlights of his regent career include the collaborative partnership between NOC and OSU that has proven beneficial as the two celebrated the 20-year anniversary of working together to promote college access and degree completion,

(See **Martin** on Page 2)



NOC regent Michael Martin was honored Wednesday at his final regent meeting by the Board of Regents and president Diana Watkins. (photo by Shiloh Martin/Northern Oklahoma College)

Martin

(Continued from Page 1)

ultimately increasing the number of Cowboys who graduate from OSU, thus strengthening the state's workforce and economy.

"I want to thank everyone who sits on this board of regents," Martin said. "NOC has a solid team and I believe the future for NOC is very bright."

"Regent Martin was sworn in the same year I became the Vice President for NOC Stillwater, so I have relied on and appreciated his guidance throughout my administrative career," said NOC President Diana Watkins. "We will all miss his unique perspective, legal expertise, and passion for providing high quality experiences for Oklahoma's college students."

Martin was appointed in 2019.



Clinic is taught by
NORTHERN
Oklahoma College Enid
Women's Soccer and
is designed for the
following:

- Skills and ball technique
- Footwork exercises
- Strategy and teamwork exercises
- Fun games
- Trial matches



JETS

SUMMER SOCCER CAMP

**For Boys and
Girls ages 4-14**

JULY 8-10
Monday 7-9 pm
Tuesday 9-11 am & 7-9 pm
Wednesday 9-11 am

Cost: \$40 or \$20 per day

Advance Soccer Complex
1526 S. Garland Rd.
Enid, OK

To Register Contact Coach Cesar Zepeda
Text 405.205.5421 or cesar.zepeda@noc.edu





Four current and past Miss NOC's participated in the Miss Oklahoma Scholarship Pageant. Picture (L-R), Shannon Varner, executive director; Mia-Claire Jones Miss NOC Enid 2022; Jaidyn Burrell, Miss NOC 2024; Dr. Diana Watkins, NOC president; Lexi Neahring NOC Enid 2018; Emma Valgora, Miss NOC Tonkawa 2022

Miss NOC Jaidyn Burrell competes at Miss Oklahoma Scholarship Pageant

Jaidyn Burrell, Miss NOC 2024, recently competed in the Miss Oklahoma Scholarship Pageant June 5-8 in Tulsa, Oklahoma, at River-spirit Casino. Burrell competed Tuesday afternoon in private interviews, Wednesday in talent and Thursday in on-stage question, health and fitness and evening gown. Burrell, a graduate from Roland High School and Northern Oklahoma College obtained an Associates in Pre- Nursing this past May. This fall, she will be attending the Nursing Program at the University of Central Oklahoma. As a member of the Lady Jets softball team,

she played first base. Off the field, she loves to ride horses and bake cookies. Beyond her personal interest, she spreads "Crafts of Compassion: Empowering Elderly Joy." This initiative bridges generations by delivering heartfelt, handmade cards, crafted by elementary school students, to brighten the days of nursing home residents. NOC also had several former Miss NOC's compete in Miss Oklahoma including Mia-Claire Jones, Lexi Neahring and Emma Valgora. Miss NOC executive director, Shannon Var-

(See Miss NOC on Page 4)



NORTHERN
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DAY CAMP
GRADES K-3 June 12-14, 2024
9:30-11:30 a.m.
Commuters Only (no meal) \$80.00
A \$25.00 deposit must accompany all applications.
The deposit is non-refundable and balance is due at time of enrollment.

OVERNIGHT CAMPS
GRADES 3-6 June 23-27, 2024
GRADES 7-12 July 7-11, 2024
Overnight Campers \$330.00
Commuters (Lunch & Dinner) \$220.00
A \$100.00 deposit must accompany all applications. The deposit is non-refundable and balance is due at time of enrollment.



GIRLS' BASKETBALL
SUMMER CAMPS 2024

CAMP GOALS

Mass Drills
Mass Drills include work on ball handling, dribbling, passing, defensive stance, pivots, post defense and shooting form.

Station Drills
Station Drills include post offense and defense, layups, triple threat, pick & roll, team defense, dribbling with cones, shooting form, rebound & outlet pass, V cuts, L cuts, back cuts, passing, help and recover defense, weakside defense, how to communicate on defense and blocking out.

Team Transition Offense
Team Transition Offense includes floor balance, filling lanes, court spacing, advancing the ball and good shot selection.

Grades K-3
Two lowered goals will be used for teaching offensive skills. Basics such as dribbling, passing, defensive and varied offensive skills will be introduced.





For More Information or to Register
Contact COACH GREG KRAUSE
580.628.6733 | greg.krause@noc.edu

Miss NOC

(Continued from Page 3)

ner said, “We are so proud of these young ladies and the commitment they have made to their community and schools serving as Miss NOC. Jaidyn has been a wonderful representative and we are so excited to see what all she accomplishes in the future.”

She received a \$1,000 cash scholarship from

NOC and an additional \$1,000 toward expenses.

Once she competed at Miss Oklahoma, she received an additional \$1,300 to use for her education. Miss Oklahoma is one of the leading organizations to donated hundreds of thousands of dollars in scholarships every year.

NOC July Birthdays



Chris Gerber	July 5	Ryan Paul	July 22
Leslie Johns	July 7	Stacy Burns	July 23
Brandon Haynes	July 7	Deryl Guilford	July 23
Jill Schultz	July 9	Jackie Melson	July 25
Terry Cartier	July 9	Kathy Riley	July 25
Hatim Hegab	July 15	Stephen Vassar	July 26
Dean Percy	July 16	Kayla Wooderson	July 27
Stephani Spurlock	July 17	Timothy Kehn	July 27
Mary Ann McCoy	July 20	Jayden Miller	July 27
Mary Moody	July 21	Sherryl Nelson	July 29

\$125

After June 7th \$150
Registration ends June 21st

Northern Oklahoma College

July 15-18, 2024 | 1:00 - 5:15 pm
Grades 6th-12th

CLASSES OFFERED:

- > Board Game Design
- > Cartooning
- > Digital Escape Room
- > Drawing Fundamentals
- > Figure Drawing
- > Hip Hop Dance

- > Jewelry & Ornament Making
- > Musical Theatre
- > Music Theatre Dance
- > Painting
- > Song Cover & Recording
- > Video Production
- > Vocal Exploration

ARTS ADVENTURE CAMP

SIGN-UP TODAY at
www.noc.edu/arts_adventure



Arts Adventure c/o Kerri Gray
P.O. Box 310, Tonkawa, OK 74653
580.628.4710



The NOC Foundation has established the Dineo Heilmann Legacy Scholarship Fund for graduating NOC students planning to enter the entertainment field as a musician or technician. Pictured (L-R): Sheri Snyder, Vice President for Development and Community Relations; Diana Watkins, NOC President; Dineo Heilmann, former Roustabout Director; Dr. Rick Edgington, Roustabout Alum; Candy Oller, Director of Development and Donor Relations. Not Pictured: Jackie Conrady, Roustabout Alum. (photo by Shiloh Martin/Northern Oklahoma College).

NOC Foundation establishes the Heilmann Legacy Scholarship Fund

The Northern Oklahoma College Foundation, Inc. acknowledges the establishment of the Dineo Heilmann Legacy Scholarship Fund. This scholarship was created by former Roustabouts and friends of Dineo Heilmann to not

only provide financial assistance to deserving NOC students, but also to honor Dineo for his dedicated leadership of the NOC Roustabouts. (See Heilmann on Page 6)



**Boys
BASKETBALL
CAMP**

JULY 15-17, 2024
NOC Tonkawa

1st -4th Grade
8:00 am - 12:00 pm

5th - 8th Grade
12:30 - 4:30 pm

To Register Contact:
Coach Gossett 580.628.6758
or Email: Brandon.Gossett@noc.edu



Cost Per Child
\$80

Commuter Day Camp.
Total for 3 Days.
Includes T-Shirt.

Kids should bring a snack for break during camp, a water bottle, and basketball (if they have one).

Please make checks payable to
NOCF Maverick Men's Basketball Camp

Heilmann

Continued from Page 5

His wish is to provide financial assistance to graduating students who excel in music performance and theater tech and who, following graduation, will continue their endeavor to become a professional musician or technician in the entertainment field.

The recipient(s) must be a graduating student at Northern Oklahoma College Tonkawa who has participated in Roustabouts as a vocalist, instrumentalist or technician.

Annual earnings and monies donated above the endowment amount will be used to fund

the scholarship(s) annually and if more than one recipient is selected, divided equally between the recipients to provide a cash award up to \$500.00 each to a selected vocalist, instrumentalist, and technician as funds allow.

Those wishing to make a gift to this NOC Foundation fund or others can contact the Foundation office at 580.628.6292 or online at Give to NOC | Northern Oklahoma College or www.noc.edu/development/foundation/give-online/.



The Greater Enid Area Chamber of Commerce recognized the NJCAA D2 Baseball World Series Committee at their annual banquet on Tuesday night. NOC Vice President for Enid Jeremy Hise, committee chairman, accepted the award on behalf of the committee. The committee makes arrangements for hosting the eight-day World Series along with 12 teams and fans from across the nation. Pictured are, from left: Andie Cremer, 2024-25 chairman of the Greater Enid Chamber of Commerce; Jeremy Hise, World Series local tournament director; Paul Allen, Enid philanthropist and co-founder of David Allen Memorial Ballpark; Bill Mayberry, ballpark director; and Jeff Funk, ballpark board and World Series Committee member. (Enid News & Eagle photo)

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**MENTAL
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GRAND Mental Health Partners with NOC for mental health services at Tonkawa starting Fall 2024

GRAND Mental Health is excited to announce their partnership with Northern Oklahoma College Tonkawa to deliver on-site behavioral health services to students, faculty and staff.

"I am grateful for this partnership. We all know college can be an amazing experience but also a very stressful time." Said Larry Smith, CEO of GRAND Mental Health. "I believe cultivating great minds should include ensuring students have access to mental health services."

During the summer, students, faculty and staff will have access to behavioral health specialists from GRAND Mental Health. The specialists will be on-site located in the Administration building, Monday and Wednesdays during the summer and Monday – Thursday during the school year.

Walk-ins and appointments are available. To make an appointment students, faculty and staff can make a referral on the GRAND website, www.grandmh.com/request-services/.

Most major insurance plans are accepted, and flexible payment options are also available.

Services include individual therapy, peer support, care coordination and wellness checks.

"NOC Tonkawa is very excited to partner with GRAND to provide on-site mental health services to our students and employees." Said Jason Johnson, VP of Student Affairs. "Care coordinator Kori (Watters) and recovery support specialist Vincent (Logsdon) from GRAND are a great fit to the NOC family."

NOC President Diana Watkins added, "We know that mental health challenges can negatively affect academic performance, and in the wake of the uncertainty created by the pandemic

students face those challenges in unprecedented numbers. Goal 1 of NOC's 2019-2025 Strategic Plan is Student Quality of Life and part of Goal 2 focuses on Student Retention and Graduation. This partnership with GRAND Mental Health addresses both by ensuring our students have access to the quality mental health care they need which will have a positive impact on retention and graduation rates."

About GRAND Mental Health:

GRAND Mental Health provides services for adults, children, adolescents, and families struggling with behavioral health issues, substance use issues, and integrated/medical needs in northeastern and north central Oklahoma. In business since 1979, GRAND Mental Health is a Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) providing evidence-based mental health and substance use services integrated with primary health care. Becoming a CCBHC has allowed GRAND Mental Health to hire wellness coaches, dietitians, occupational therapists, behavioral health coaches and peer recovery support specialists to provide a larger spectrum of services to clients.

GRAND Mental Health operates 29 clinics and centers in 13 Oklahoma counties, employing more than 2,200 people. GRAND Mental Health strives to provide personalized care, anytime, anywhere. GRAND Mental Health works closely with and is partially funded by the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services.

NOC receives NJCAA Sport Opportunity Grant for wrestling

Northern Oklahoma College is receiving a Sport Opportunity Grant from the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Foundation.

The \$2,000 grant will assist NOC's Men's and Women's Wrestling programs in Fall 2024. NOC is establishing a new women's program and re-establishing the men's program after a 30-year absence.

Men's Wrestling coach Bryan Kenney said the grant will be used for a set of scales and cleaning supplies.

NOC President Diana Watkins said, "Students who are engaged in campus activities perform better academically, and that rings true for spectators as well as student-athletes. Collegiate athletics foster a sense of unity and pride in the institution, bringing together students, faculty, staff, alumni and community members. When NOC made the decision to bring back men's wrestling and to begin women's wrestling, we did so with a commitment to seek external funding for our start-up costs. We are appreciative of the NJCAA's support in that endeavor."

Athletic director Alan Foster added, "At NOC as we look to start up new programs like wrestling, costs are always the biggest obstacle.

Grants such as this from the NJCAA Foundation are such a huge help. We so appreciate this NJCAA program that allows us to help make it possible."

"Through the NJCAA Sport Opportunity Grant, the NJCAA Foundation is creating opportunities for member colleges to expand and develop sports offerings," stated Brian Luckett, NJCAA Foundation Executive Director. "Athletics at the two-year level continue to grow and progress, resulting in student-athletes being afforded more significant development opportunities athletically and academically."

Men's wrestling coach Bryan Kenney said, "Thank you to the NJCAA Foundation for supporting the men's and women's wrestling program at NOC. We are looking forward to the re-building of the program with honor for our community and the NJCAA."

About NJCAA Foundation

The mission of the NJCAA Foundation is to enhance the NJCAA national organization, student-athletes, member colleges and local communities through financial support, scholarships, program initiatives and community service.



NORTHERN
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TONKAWA | ENID | STILLWATER

OSRHE Oklahoma Promise college scholarship deadline July 1

The application deadline for students to enroll in Oklahoma's Promise, a transformational state scholarship program, is set for July 1. This is the final opportunity for students who were 11th graders in the 2023-24 school year to apply for the scholarship.

Oklahoma's Promise is a nationally recognized college access program that allows high school students the opportunity to earn a tuition scholarship that can be used at an Oklahoma college, university or public career technology center. Family income may not exceed the following levels at the time of application: \$60,000 for families with one-two dependent children; \$70,000, three-four dependent children; or \$80,000, five or more dependent children. Special income provisions apply to children adopted from certain court-ordered custody and children in the custody of court-appointed legal guardians.

"We encourage eligible students who just completed eighth through 11th grade to apply for Oklahoma's Promise today," said Chancellor Allison D. Garrett. "Since the program's inception in 1992, over 110,000 Oklahomans have earned the Oklahoma's Promise scholarship, opening the door for them to achieve the dream of a college degree and join our state's educated workforce."

The Oklahoma's Promise scholarship covers tuition at any public college or university in the state for up to five years until the completion of a bachelor's degree or a maximum of 129 semester credit hours. It will also pay a portion of the tuition at an accredited Oklahoma private college or at public career technology centers for certain programs that are eligible for federal financial aid. The scholarship amount does not include fees, books, supplies, or room and



board.

Students enrolled in Oklahoma's Promise must attend class regularly, take a 17-unit college preparatory curriculum, pass those courses with at least a 2.50 GPA and earn an overall GPA of at least 2.50 to be eligible for the scholarship. Students must agree to stay out of serious trouble and avoid drugs and alcohol.

Students must also meet certain income, academic, and conduct requirements while in college or attending a public career technology center to receive and retain the scholarship.

The Oklahoma Legislature created Oklahoma's Promise in 1992 as an incentive for middle and high school students to commit to academic success and prepare for college. In 2007, the Oklahoma Legislature established a dedicated funding source for the program that has helped ensure scholarships earned by Oklahoma's Promise students are fully paid each year.

Oklahoma's Promise is recognized by many as one of the nation's best college access programs and is considered a model that emphasizes both academic preparation and financial support for college. For more information about Oklahoma's Promise or to apply online, visit <https://www.okpromise.org/>. Information is also available by emailing okpromise@osrhe.edu or calling 800.858.1840.



NOC art students toured two art exhibits in Kansas City in May. (photos provided)

NOC art students tour KC museums

Led by Art Faculty Audrey Schmitz, NOC Art and Digital Media students toured three museums in the Kansas City area May 19-20.

The tour included the Nerman Museum of Art in Overland Park, Kansas, and the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art and Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art in Kansas City, Missouri. Joining the tour was Brad Matson, Director of DMI and Jason McNaughton, Adjunct Instructor of Art.

Highlights of the tour included Ghiberti's «Gates of Paradise» bronze doors, 1425-1452; «St. John the Baptist in the Wilderness» by Caravaggio, 1604; and Claude Monet's «Water Lilies,» 1915-1926.» Funding for the Museum Experience trip was supported by an NOC Foundation Masonic Grant.

Students attending the trip included Kila Venable, Mohmmmed Masra, Ariel Calvert, Jason McNaughton, Myra Mehojah, Amy Smith, Brad Matson, MaeElla Seaboy Clift, Audrey Schmitz, Xavier Burris, and Lena Black.



Life changing.

NOC adjusts room/board, rental property rates at May meeting

While the main news at the Northern Oklahoma College Board of Regent May 22 meeting was the hiring of Diana Watkins as the college's 15th president, the board took other actions as well.

Regents approved an increase in room and board rates at Tonkawa and Enid.

Vice President for Financial Affairs Anita Simpson explained to board members the increase averages 5% for double occupancy in residence halls at both campus locations. Simpson also reported the occupancy rates for Tonkawa was 64% in Fall 2023 and 58% for Spring 2024. The Enid occupancy rate was 73% for Fall 2023 and 59% for Spring 2024.

The regents also approved the increase of residential rental properties and facility rentals at Enid and Tonkawa effective July 2024. Rental properties will increase by \$25/month bringing potentially an additional \$10,800 per year to NOC. NOC owns 27 rental properties in Tonkawa and 20 in Enid.

Other increases include rental fees for Montgomery Hall, the President's Conference Room, and the Gantz Center in Enid. Those increases also begin July 2024. There will be no increase to the Wellness Center at NOC Tonkawa.

Regents also approved the college's financial report, presented by Simpson. They also approved three purchases of \$25,000 or more including a \$33,000.00 roof repair at Elliot-Goulter Residence Hall in Enid, 50 Computers for all campuses at a cost of \$60,000.00, and roof replacement at Wilkin Hall at Tonka-

wa at a cost of \$219,698.83.

Numerous policies from the Northern Oklahoma College Foundation, Inc. were approved as presented by Vice President for Development and Community Relations Sheri Snyder, who also serves as Executive Director to the Foundation.

In Vice President updates, Vice President for Academic Affairs Diana Watkins reported that 35 students completed their degrees through the Reach Higher Program from the state regents' office. She also reported that NOC Tonkawa will be hosting a workshop for Math Instructors this summer.

Vice President for Enid Jeremy Hise reported that four Enid High School students and one Drummond High School student earned degrees from NOC as part of the Dual Credit to Degree Program. He said 12 other students are currently in the program.

Hise added that the City of Enid will be hosting the NJCAA Division 2 World Series for an additional three years through 2028.

The regents also heard a wrestling report as NOC Tonkawa re-establishes the men's program and starts the women's program in Fall 2024. Athletic Director Alan Foster reported that 41 men and 23 women have committed to be part of NOC wrestling this fall.

The board also approved the meeting dates for 2024-25. The regents primarily meet on the third Wednesday of each month at 2 p.m. excluding August and January.



The Chautauqua Teachers' Institute and Seminar at NOC Enid studied the Civil Rights Movement this year. Teacher's toured the Greenwood Rising History Center and ate at the famous Wanda J's. They also heard character portrayals from Thurgood Marshall, Earl Warren, Lady Bird Johnson, Coretta Scott King, and Rosa Parks. (photos provided)



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GATEWAY
PROGRAM

